

JERSEY'S FANCY COURT HOUSE

GETTING AT THE FACTS AS TO THE COSTS OF IT.

Bro-Abrae Spillitons for All Jersey—What Architect Roberts Knows and Doesn't Know—Difference Between Bronze Work and Steel Inquired Into.

The investigation engineered by District Court Judge Charles L. Carrick of Jersey City and his committee of Hudson county residents as to the cost of building and furnishing the new \$3,500,000 county court house was resumed before Supreme Court Justice Francis J. Swayze in Jersey City yesterday after a six weeks recess, during which James Cameron, the expert who ferreted out many things in connection with the Pennsylvania State Capitol at Harrisburg, and another Jersey prober dug up much that they believe calls for explanations on the part of the members of the new county building committee, under whose direction the court house was erected; Architect Hugh Roberts and one or more of the contractors.

Architect Roberts was put through a severe examination by former Attorney-General Robert H. McCarter on several matters, one of which dealt with the furnishing of filing cases and other things for vaults. Roberts testified to the committee that the articles had been supplied and the work performed according to specifications. The committee passed the claims and ordered the usual 5 per cent. of the contract retained for a certain period according to custom.

"You testified that the shelving of the inner vaults had been furnished in bronze?" asked McCarter. "Don't you know they are steel?"

"They looked bronze to me," replied Roberts.

"Do you know steel from bronze?"

"I do."

"How many bronze pilasters are shown on the plans for the law library?"

"Ten."

"Will you say there is a single bronze pilaster there?"

Roberts admitted that he couldn't tell, and McCarter directed him to visit the law library with Expert Cameron to take a look.

When he returned Chief Prober McCarter said: "Well, what did you see, steel or bronze?"

"Steel, not bronze," answered Roberts.

"What is the difference between the cost of stacks made of furniture steel and those of cast bronze chased in high relief?"

Roberts admitted he couldn't tell.

McCarter pointed out many details of the furnishings for vaults wherein the contractor didn't live up to the specifications and the architect had ordered the claims paid and that 320 roller shelves were short, 108 cupboard doors were missing and thousands of files were not to be found. Roberts promised to make a tour of inspection and report the result of his observations to-morrow. The architect said that the retained 5 per cent. of the contract price would be held back until everything was supplied according to specifications.

Roberts produced a suit case full of his office books, bank books, checks, &c., for a period of several years and Judge Carrick then took him in hand.

Judge Carrick asked if any of various county warrants received by him had been paid to anybody and concluded his examination by asking:

"Was any of the payments received by you from the county as fees amounting to \$134,650.52 paid by you to any member of the committee, the Jersey City Supply Company or Mr. Davis (the dead count leader) or any other person?"

"No, sir," explained Roberts indignantly.

Up to this moment Roberts had been master of his emotions, but the moment he was excused from the stand and started to pack his checks and bank books into his suit case he turned his back to the crowded court room and wept like a boy. There was a deathlike stillness in the court as he slowly walked out with tears streaming down his face.

Alexander J. Clements, president of the court house committee, who is known throughout Hudson county as Sandy Clements, injected some humor into the proceedings with his testimony. Clements said he had been a retail salesman for sixteen years and he smiled blandly as McCarter went after him.

"What is the difference between the \$45 roll top desks that you put in your office when you first started in Hudson county and the \$352 wooden roll top desks that you bought for the court house?" asked the chief prober.

"I don't know," said Clements. "Desks ain't in my line."

Clements admitted that he had borrowed county funds from County Collector Stephen Egan and said he considered it a "personal loan."

"Do you mean to say that you were helping him to embezzle?" asked Justice Swayze.

"I didn't care what book or fund the cash came out of," said Clements. "So long as I got it, I needed the money."

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vane, the committee's counsel, advised against it, because they believed the contract was entitled to the money. They also voted at the same time to approve of plans for a \$400,000 new hall of Records made by Roberts, they said, because they had directed the architect to do them.

In the morning County Collector Egan, who had filed sworn statements with the administrators of the estate of the late Robert H. McCarter, the Democratic leader for many years, that he loaned Davis nearly \$100,000 in 1909, admitted that he had loaned county funds to Commissioners Clements and Smith and Court House Custodian Stuck. He said he advanced \$20,000 to Henry A. Crane, one of the contractors, because Clements told him that Crane would stop work unless he got the money. Egan admitted that he also advanced Architect Roberts some county cash against warrants for Roberts's fees, which the committee subsequently ordered paid.

Smith testified that he "touch" amounted to \$2,100, but he insisted on calling it a "personal loan." Egan got the county funds back when the committee ordered the warrants ordered paid. The County Collector said that although the county pays 4 1/2 per cent. on its Court House bonds it has no interest in its deposits in the bank.

Representatives of several Jersey City banks produced books and records in court showing the accounts of the county and the several officials figuring in the investigation.

The inquiry will be continued to-morrow. Justice Swayze will charge the jury to return a verdict and it is expected that he will have something to say about the practice on the part of the County Collector of lending county funds to individuals.

FILM SHOW MEN DEFENDED.

City Red Tape and Divided Responsibility Attributed to Censor Coffer.

The National League for the Civic Education of Women discussed moving picture shows at its Madison avenue headquarters yesterday. John Collier, educational secretary of the national board of censorship, who was the chief speaker, began by informing the assembled anti that he was a believer in woman's suffrage.

Mrs. Gilbert Jones, who was presiding, smiled at the announcement, but no one made any audible comment. Mr. Collier went on to say that under the existing city ordinances it was almost impossible for the moving picture people to do much better than most of them are doing right now.

"Since the seating capacity of the rooms in which these pictures are displayed is not permitted to exceed 300," he said, "the managers in order to make any money at all are compelled to keep the spectacle moving as quickly as possible. They must needs rush a horse across the road and then they have to get out of the room as fast as they can."

It is necessary to get through and get one crowd out and another one in without losing any time.

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DEFENCE OF DEGREE PEDLERS

30 PER CENT. COMMISSION FOR SELLING CARNEGIE STOCK.

The Broker Can't Keep Degrees That Go With the Preferred—They Are Customers' P. 10 2-5 Per Cent. Graduate of N. Y. University Explains.

The National Institute of Mechanotherapy, affiliated with Carnegie University of Mataputaph, which had some publicity in THE SUN on March 31 because "the board of regents, officers and faculty of Carnegie University" had decided to confer honorary degrees upon persons who showed sufficient interest in the institution to buy \$100 or \$150 worth of stock at par, protested yesterday through its secretary, "Dr." James Edward Lintott, that the published statement concerning the institution and its officers was incorrect.

The institute sent a statement for publication. This statement of the promoters, J. J. Honan Vanderheide and Lintott, said:

Dr. Vanderheide is a graduate of the University of Amsterdam, Holland, of the Royal Institute of Mechanotherapy at Amsterdam, of the National College of Electro-Therapeutics and of the United College of Osteopathy, so he is well qualified to be the executive officer of this university.

Dr. Lintott, secretary of the university and National Institute of Mechanotherapy, is a graduate of the University of the College of St. Francis Xavier, of the National School of Chiropractic of Chicago and of New York University.

The statement said further that the board of regents of Carnegie University, who are to have much to do with deciding who are entitled to honorary degrees, is composed of four men—C. Hyman, LL. D., A. I. Homan Vanderheide, LL. D., D. C., P. Kohntamm, Ph. D., D. V. S. E. P. Stok, M. D., and J. J. Honan Vanderheide.

In the fact that the members of the board of regents are not scattered all over the world, are all living in New York, New Jersey and Delaware. The university has representatives, however, in Batavia, Dutch East Indies; Cape Town, The Hague, London, Constantinople, Smyrna and Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. J. J. H. Vanderheide resisted all efforts yesterday to get from him something of the educational career of the members of the board of regents. The president of the allied institutions said that his chief objection to THE SUN article was the statement that he has a "credentialed" degree in the law from a mirror at the hall of the institute.

present apartments on the ground floor of 128 West Sixty-sixth street, "which shows to those within the room whether a policeman is in the law."

The SUN reporter asked how it happened that the official statement credited Lintott with a law degree from a mirror at the hall of the institute.

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SOLD DECAYED FOOD.

Bovary Restaurant Kept Brought Ancient Hams at Navy Yard Sale.

Joseph and Stanislaus Fleisher, brothers, who keep a restaurant at 267 Bowery, were fined \$100 each in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday for having decayed foodstuffs for sale in their restaurant. Dr. McMillen, who has temporarily taken Bayard Fuller's place as chief food inspector of the Department of Health, was present in court to press the cases against dealers in bad food. The cases against the Fleisher brothers were brought by Inspectors Woods and Konz.

Joseph Fleisher was charged with having 202 decayed hams. These hams were part of what remained of eighty-seven hams of condemned brand. Stanislaus Fleisher bought eighteen months ago at a Government sale in the navy yard. He paid \$4 a barrel for them. The hams were sent to the Bovary restaurant and were thence distributed to the various restaurants in the chain of eating houses run by the Fleisher brothers.

Fleisher testified that he supposed the hams were good.

"Why should the Government sell good products at half their cost price?" inquired Attorney General Corporation Counsel Stiefel, who was prosecuting the cases. "Was it not because the hams were not good?"

Stanislaus Fleisher was accused of having for sale twelve pounds of decayed pork sausage, twelve pounds of putrid liver and thirty-four gallons of filthy ketchup. The stuff was for use in the restaurant at 267 Bowery. It had been condemned by the Government and sold cheap.

Michael Levy, a butcher at 199 Orchard street, was convicted of having for sale twenty decayed chickens and was fined \$25. Levy deals in kosher meats. These chickens, it was shown, instead of being killed according to kosher regulations had died during transportation to the slaughter house.

"Kosher," said Mr. Stiefel, "means clean. These chickens are so rotted they are green."

Levy maintained that the chickens were not meant for sale. The court did not believe him and found him guilty.

Four other cases of foodstuffs were convicted and fined \$2